

Message Text

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TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, US, RO, GW

SUBJECT: US EXPORT OF SILICON INGOT SLICING SAWS TO ROMANIA

REF: A. COCOM DOC (78) 292 B. 78 PARIS 15629
C. 78 PARIS 17309

THE FOLLOWING IN ANSWER TO GERMAN QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO
THIS CASE:

A. WHAT IS THE TECHNICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SMA 4274 AND
SMA 4451?

ANS: THE TRANSACTION INVOLVES 4 BCS SMA 4274 AND 2 PCS
SMA 4451. THESE MODELS ARE BOTH 16 INCH DIAMETER SAW UNITS
CAPABLE OF HANDLING UP TO 76MM DIAMETER INGOTS. HOWEVER,
THE SMA 4451, FIRST MARKETING ONE YEAR AGO, HAS THE POTENTIAL
FOR UPGRADING TO A RETROFIT CONVERSION PACKAGE, NOT BEING
SUPPLIED, IS MADE AVAILABLE. THE MODEL SMA 4274 IS A MUCH
OLDER UNIT WITHOUT ANY SUCH PROVISION FOR UPGRADING.

B. OF THE SIX SAWS, HOW MANY ARE OF THE TYPE 16 AND HOW
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MANY ARE THE TYPE 22?

ANS: ALL SIX MACHINES ARE THE MODEL 16 TYPE.

C. HOW LONG HAVE THESE MODELS BEEN AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET?

ANS: (1) SMA 4274 - 5 YEARS, SINCE 1973.

(2) SMA 4451 - A MODIFIED SMA 4274 - 1 YEAR ON THE

D. WHAT JUSTIFICATION IS THERE FOR EXPORTING 6 MACHINES?

WHY DOES US CONSIDER 6 MACHINES REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE

FOR THE STATED END USE?

ANS: IPRS-BANEASA IS A WELL KNOWN ROMANIAN SEMICONDUCTOR FACILITY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF MANY TYPES OF SEMICONDUCTORS, ALL OF WHICH REQUIRE PELLETS OR WAFERS SAWN FROM SILICON INGOTS. INDUSTRY OBSERVERS HAVE REPORTED THAT THE SAWS PRESENTLY IN USE BY THIS FACILITY ARE OLD MACHINES OF MIXED TYPES, MOST NEEDING REPLACEMENT. A QUANTITY OF SIX SAWS FOR USE IN SILICON PREPARATION IS A REASONABLE REPLACEMENT FOR OLD EQUIPMENT. MOREOVER, THIS FACILITY IS A WELL KNOWN LARGE SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTION PLANT TO WHICH OTHER EQUIPMENT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN APPROVED IN COCOM.

IN THE US, SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURERS EMPLOY LARGE NUMBERS OF THESE MACHINES TO SLICE PELLETS AND WAFERS. ONE WELL KNOWN MANUFACTURER HAS OVER 100 SAWS SO EMPLOYED. ALSO A SINGLE US POWER TRANSISTOR MANUFACTURER USES SIX STC MACHINES OF THIS MODEL FULL TIME FOR PELLET SLICING. SIX MACHINES FOR A LARGE PLANT IS SEEN TO BE A REASONABLE EXPORT. VANCE

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